GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2907
ANSWERED ON:15.03.2016
Promotion of Bio-Fertilizers
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of organic fertilizer provided to farmers as compared to the total quantum of fertilizers consumed in the country;

(b) whether the Government has launched certain schemes in the recent past to promote use of bio-fertilizers in the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof along with the funds allocated during 11th and 12th Five Year Plans under various schemes for the purpose;

(d) the details of production of major crops achieved during the last one year using bio-fertilizers vis-a-vis chemical fertilizers in the country;

(e) the steps taken by the Government to popularise the use of bio-fertilizers amongst the farmers in the country; and

(f) whether the Government has considered the feasibility of establishing community biogas plants so as to promote use of bio-fertilizers, if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

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(a): The total consumption of organic fertilizer is 2298.62 MT whereas the consumption of chemical fertilizer in term of total N P K consumption of chemical fertilizer is 255.76 lakh MT during the year 2014-15.

(b): Government is promoting bio-fertilizers through various schemes of National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA)/ Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) and National Mission on Oilseeds and Oil Palm (NMOOP), National Food Security Mission (NFSM) and Indian Council of Agricultural Sciences (ICAR). The pattern of assistance is given in Annexure I.

Contdâ€¦2/-

(c): The funds allocated during 11th and 12th Five Year Plans is given as:

(in Rs. Lakhs)

Scheme	11th Five Year Plan (2007-12)	12th Five Year Plan (2012-17)
National Project on Organic Farming(NPOF)	11838.00	5898.5
Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY)	-	300,0000
Net work Project on Soil Biodiversity Bio fertilizer-ICAR	776.52	1763.65(BE)
Micro-nutrient s and Soil ameliorates (Bio- fertilizers)-NFSM	833.02	1657.71

(d): Studies conducted by ICAR have shown that bio-fertilizers can improve yield in leguminous crops (i.e. pulses) by use of rhizobium and in cereals and oil seeds and horticulture crops by azotobacter. They indicate that bio-fertilizer can improve crop yield by 10-25% and supplement costly chemical fertilizers (N, P) by nearly 20-25% in most of the cases when used along with chemical fertilizers. Further, study show that when bio-fertilizers are applied with compost @5t/ha or vermicompost @2t/ha, fertilizer saving is almost 50%.

(e): Under National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA), the National Centre of Organic Farming, Ghaziabad is conducting various extension and publicity activities like Exhibitions, Radio Talks, TV Programmes, and distribution of literature on Bio-fertilizers. NCOF publishes Bio-Fertilizer News letter bi-annually as well as Organic Farming News Letter Quarterly in Hindi and English

languages. In addition, various books on production and use of biofertilizers have been published in various languages for distribution to the farming community. Radio jingle on promotion of organic agriculture was broadcasted on four different FM Radio Stations at Delhi, Bangalore, Nagpur and Lucknow. The ICAR also imparts training, organizes FLDs etc. to educate farmers on the use of biofertiliser.

(f): (i) Government is promoting soil test based integrated nutrient management through conjunctive use of both inorganic and organic sources of plant nutrients. Bio-fertilizers are promoted for mobilizing both macro and micro nutrients in soil in both organic agriculture as well as in conventional agriculture. Their main function is to fix the nitrogen in root nodules, for seed inoculation and to promote plant growth hormones.

ii) Biogas is methane (CH_4) produced from biomass through anaerobic process of decomposition.